CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-18 (Cancelled)

19. (New) A friction device for rolling up curtains comprising:

a tubular roller (1), for winding and unwinding a curtain (1a) between a rolled up configuration (A), in which the curtain (1a) is wound on the roller (1), and an unrolled configuration (B), in which the curtain (1a) is unwound from the roller (1);

support means (10) for rotatably supporting said roller (1);

a threaded stem (2) supported inside said roller (1) disposed for angularly displacing said roller with respect to said threaded stem during rotation of said roller;

first stop means (40) fastened to a part of said stem (2) and second stop means (50) fastened to a second part of said stem (2);

an operative body (3), slidingly movable inside the roller (1) and fitted onto said stem (2) between said first stop means and said second stop means, said operative body (3) being engaged to and driven by said roller (2) so as to move axially along said threaded stem (2) during rotation of the roller during the unrolling and rolling up of said curtain (1a);

first elastic means (4) interposed between said first stop means (40) and a first surface (3a) of said operative body (3), and second elastic means (5) interposed between said second stop means (50) and a second surface (3b) of the operative body (3),

wherein, in a rolled up configuration (A), the operative body (3) is positioned in respect to the stem (2) such that said first elastic means (4) are at least partially compressed and said second elastic means (5) are at least partially released, while in an unrolled configuration (B), the operative body (3) is positioned in respect to the stem (2) such that said first elastic means (4) are at least partially released and second elastic means (5) are at least partially compressed, said operative body (3), during rotation of the roller (1) for unrolling of the curtain (1a) from

the rolled up configuration (A) to the unrolled configuration (B), being moved axially along the stem (2) close to said second stop means (50) so that second elastic means (51) are gradually compressed and said first elastic means (41) are gradually released and, during rotation of the roller (1) for rolling up of the curtain (1a) from the unrolled configuration (B) to the rolled up configuration (A), being moved axially along the stem (2) close to said first stop means (4) so that the first elastic means (41) are gradually compressed and second elastic means (51) are gradually released.

20. (New) The device according to claim 19 further comprising at least one upper stop point (A*) of said curtain (1a) defined at a point where said first elastic means (4) reaches a level of compression where said operative body is prevented from moving further towards said first elastic means.

21. (New) The device according to claim 20 further comprising at least one lower stop point (B*) of said curtain (1a) defined at a point where said second elastic means (5) reaches a level of compression where said operative body is prevented from moving further towards said second elastic means.

22. (New) The device according to claim 21 wherein said upper stop point (A*) and said lower stop point (B*) are adjustable in relation to said first stop means (40) and said second stop means (50).

23. (New) The device according to claim 22 wherein said upper stop point (A*) and said lower stop point (B*) are adjustable in relation to defined characteristics of said first elastic means (4) and said second elastic means (5).

24. (New) The device according to claim 19 wherein said threaded stem (2) is supported in a stationary position by said support means (10) which allow said roller (1) to rotate with respect to the threaded stem (2) during unrolling and rolling up of said curtain (1a).

25. (New) The device according to claim 19 further comprising a speed reduction group (6) for driving said threaded stem (2) into rotation with respect to said roller (1), by angular displacement, the speed of the stem reduced with respect to the speed of the roller, during unrolling and rolling up of the curtain (1a).

26. (New) The device according to claim 19 wherein said operative body (3) is a cylinder having a first surface (3a) and a second surface (3b), the cylinder having means for coupling with the roller (1).

27. (New) The device according to claim 26 wherein said means for coupling include at least one tooth (30) located on said cylinder (3), the tooth guided in a corresponding inner longitudinal groove located in the roller (1).

28. (New) The device according to claim 26 wherein said means for coupling include a pair of diametrically opposed teeth located on said cylinder (3), the pair of teeth guided in corresponding inner longitudinal grooves located in the roller (1).

29. (New) The device according to claim 19 wherein said first stop means (40) and said second stop means (50) include nuts screwed to said threaded stem (2).

30. (New) The device according to claim 19 wherein said first elastic means (4) and said second elastic means (5) are made of a resilient material.

31. (New) The device according to claim 30 wherein said first elastic means (41) and said second elastic means (51) each have a spheroid shape and have holes along a diametrical axis, through which said threaded stem (2) passes.

32. (New) The device according to claim 30 wherein said first elastic means (41) and said second elastic means (51) are ellipsoid blocks having holes along a diametrical axis, through which said threaded stem (2) passes.

33. (New) The device according to claim 30 wherein said resilient material is selected from the group consisting of neoprene gum, a synthetic resilient material, and a natural resilient material.

34. (New) The device, according to claim 30 wherein said first elastic means (41) and said second elastic means (51) have different compression characteristics relative to each other.

35. (New) The device according to claim 19 wherein said first elastic means (41) and said second elastic means (51) have peripheral facings which avoid contact with an inner surface of the roller (1).

36. (New) The device according to claim 19 wherein said first elastic means (41) and said second elastic means (51) have different diameters relative to each other.